

A close-up photograph of a palm frond, showing the intricate texture of the leaflets. A vibrant rainbow gradient is overlaid on the image, transitioning from yellow at the top to green at the bottom, with orange and red in the middle. The text "Palm Sunday 2018" is centered over the image in a bold, black, sans-serif font.

Palm Sunday 2018

first covenant church of saint paul ~ 1280 arcade street ~ saint paul, mn 55106
(651)774-0344 ~ www.first-covenant.org
office@first-covenant.org

PALM SUNDAY

March 25, 2018

9:30 a.m.

Gathering Time

*Celebration Parade

Hosanna, We Sing

*Greeting

If you are a visitor, have a prayer request or have a change of address, please note this on a Connect Card found in the pew pockets. Place it in the offering plate.

*Opening Prayer & The Lord's Prayer

Ministry Highlight

Team World Vision, Sarah Carpenter

Scripture Reading

Mark 11:1-11, Pastor Lidovick Pierre

*Song

Way Maker (Sinach)

Sabbath Practice

Practicing the Presence of God, Donovan DeGaetano

Prayer of the People

Giving and Living Out of Our Abundance

Offertory

Jesu, Our Joy, We Adore Thee (arr. Jay Rouse)

Pat Kohnen, piano

Children in grades pre-k through 2nd grade are invited to continue worshipping in Children's Church. After the offertory, please meet the teachers in the back of the Sanctuary.

Message

A Royal Parade
Pastor Anne Vining

*Closing Hymn 227

All Glory, Laud, and Honor

*Sending Words

Postlude

Lift High the Cross (arr. C. Callahan)

Prayer Time for health and wholeness is offered in the Prayer Chapel following Worship.

If you temporarily leave the sanctuary during a Worship service, please return to your seats using the rear sanctuary doors. This will minimize disruptions. Thank you for understanding.

TODAY

Welcome to Worship at First Covenant Church! Wherever you find yourself on your journey of faith, we are glad you are here! Today we are privileged to worship with our partner church, Haitian Christian Fellowship, who regularly worship here at First Covenant Church on Sunday evenings.

9:30am

Worship

Nursery Care, (birth through age 3), *Rooms 105 & 106*

Children's Church, children pre-k through 2nd grade are dismissed with leaders during Worship and will return with leaders during the last song, *Room 104*.

Resource Table for children and youth: Stop by this table as you enter Worship for bulletins, crayons & Bibles for children, and Confirmation worship notes.

10:30-11:00am

Fellowship Time, *Upper Fellowship Hall*

Butter Braid Pastry pick up: anyone who purchased their Butter Braids from the general church sale on March 4 can pick up their Butter Braid Pastries today. Please see Addin with any questions. Thank you for your support of our CHIC youth!

11:00am

Palm Sunday Brunch following Worship, *Lower Fellowship Hall*

From Pastor Lidovick Pierre, Haitian Christian Fellowship:

"We are so excited about worshipping together today. In the last 22 years, the Lord rescued us from Haiti as refugees to this land called Minnesota and led us to you as dear loving brothers and sisters of First Covenant Church in Saint Paul. You opened your hearts, you received and welcomed us with compassion and great joy and hospitality. You make us feel home. In the last three years HCF, sensed together to move the church services to the morning. This is the main reason we started raising money to move to a new place. You are all invited to our fundraiser brunch. All the money we receive will go toward that church building. We will receive donations as well. *Merci beaucoup!* Thank you very much!"

Cost: \$10.00 for adults; \$5.00 for children 5-12 years; free for children 4 and under. Credit cards, debit cards, cash and checks will be accepted.

Due to the brunch, we will not be having Spiritual Growth Hour today.

Sunday, April 1 is Easter Sunday, 10:30am Worship

Join us next Sunday as we celebrate the Resurrection of Jesus Christ in worship with the Easter and Handbell Choirs, and Chamber and Brass Ensembles. Invite your friends and family!

OUR LIFE TOGETHER

We extend our sympathies to Don Madvig and family in the death of his wife LaVerne, who passed away on March 18. LaVerne's memorial service is tentatively planned for Saturday, April 7 at 1:00pm at First Covenant Church.

We extend our sympathies to Louise Schostek and family in the death of her husband Sam, who passed away on March 5. Sam's memorial service will be held at First Covenant Church tomorrow, March 26 at 2:00pm.

Beauty and the Beast DVD's: sign up at the Welcome Center to order a DVD of Beauty and the Beast. Each DVD costs \$10, which will help support future musicals. Please pay with cash or a check written out to First Covenant Church. Please pick up your DVD at the Welcome Center the following Sunday. Thanks for your support!

Stay connected: Weekly worship bulletins and podcasts of each week's message can be found on the church website under the Worship and Arts tab. Stop by the Welcome Center to order a CD of any Worship Service. The current Adult Spiritual Growth Hour series is not being recorded due to the format of the discussion groups.

Why are there hoses around the building? Yes, we still have roof leaks. Pastor Tom has been working with our insurance company, an independent claims adjuster, and a contractor to compile information and repair costs. The fans and hoses will need to stay for a while longer to prevent further water damage to the leaking area. Thanks for your understanding.

SUPPORTING OUR YOUTH GOING TO CHIC

26 senior high students will be attending CHIC the week of July 14-20, 2018. CHIC is the Covenant Denomination's triennial youth conference in Knoxville, TN. Thank you for the ways you have been, and will continue to show your support!

CHIC Dessert and Auction - Saturday, April 21, 6:30pm, First Covenant Church
Save the date for our CHIC Dessert and Auction! Tickets go on sale Sunday, April 1 following worship. Do you have something that is auction-worthy? We are on the lookout for events, services, and goods (new or very gently used) that can help support our auction. If you have something that you would like to donate, contact Bill or Janel Haider or fill out the online form here: <https://goo.gl/forms/IBvfW2tWCSFdaXdE2>.

OPPORTUNITY TO SUPPORT OUR PARTNER, FVFL

Casting Our Nets; Saving Our Community Breakfast, Thursday, April 26, 7:00am
Saint Paul Federal Credit Union (1330 Conway Street).

Our partner, Family Values for Life is hosting their annual fundraising breakfast with guest speaker, Melvin Carter, Mayor of Saint Paul. All are invited - there is no cost. Please RSVP by April 20 to Rhonda Graham at (651) 774-6663 or Rhonda.fvfl@gmail.com.

LENT OPPORTUNITIES

Lent is the Christian season of preparation before Easter. Ash Wednesday marks the first day, or the start of the season of Lent, which begins 40 days prior to Easter (not including Sundays). Lent is a time for reflection on Jesus Christ - his suffering and his sacrifice, his life, death, burial and resurrection.

Covenant World Relief Update: Disaster Relief

Covenant World Relief, working alongside other relief organizations, is equipped to be on the ground immediately after a natural disaster. Disaster relief has been provided by CWR in countries around the world including: Republic of Congo, South Sudan, Japan, India, Philippines, United States and others. In the past year, CWR provided relief and support for flooding and mudslides in South Asia, medical relief to assist in the historically worst cholera epidemic in Yemen, and hurricane relief in the United States and Central America.

Give on Easter Sunday to Covenant World Relief.

Easter Memorials gifts are due TODAY! These gifts are used to purchase flowering plants that beautify our sanctuary for Worship on Easter Sunday. The smaller flowers will be delivered to bless our homebound friends following Easter. If you would like to honor the memory of a loved one, please provide their name(s) along with a financial gift (cash or a check written out to First Covenant Church) in an envelope. Place your envelope in the offering plate or bring to the church office today. Envelopes are available at the Welcome Center. All names received by today will be listed in the bulletin on Easter Sunday.

Good Friday Concert, Friday, March 30, 7:00pm, FCC Sanctuary

The Ethnic Mass Concert Series will continue with the Misa Criolla, written by Ariel Ramirez, an Argentine composer who used the melodies and rhythms of traditional Hispanic music. As we live in this journey of becoming a multicultural church we continue experiencing the various cultures through their own musical styles. Featured in this free concert will be the Easter Choir, the Vena Family from Argentina, the Handbell Choir and Chamber Ensemble. A reception will follow the concert.

SCHEDULE CHANGES

Wednesday Night Programs are on pause for two weeks. There will be no regular Wednesday night programs on March 28 or April 4. They will resume on Wednesday, April 11. Please join us for Stations of the Cross this Wednesday, March 28, 5:30-7:30pm.

The Fruit of the Vine Food Shelf will be closed on Saturday, March 31.

The church office will be closed on Monday, April 2 for Easter Monday.